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FM AMEMBASSY ANKARA

TO RUEHC/SECSTATE WASHDC 7182

INFO RUCNRAQ/IRAQ COLLECTIVE

RHEFDIA/DIA WASHDC

RUEAIIA/CIA WASHDC

RUEKJCS/SECDEF WASHDC//USDP:PDUSDP/ISA:EUR/ISA:NESA//

RHEHAAA/NSC WASHDC

RUEUITH/ODC ANKARA TU

RUEKJCS/Joint STAFF WASHDC//J-3/J-5//

RUZEJAA/JAC MOLESWORTH RAF MOLESWORTH UK

RHMFISS/EUCOM POLAD VAIHINGEN GE

RHMFISS/HQ USCENTCOM MACDILL AFB FL

RHMFISS/425ABG IZMIR TU//CC//

RHMFISS/39ABG INCIRLIK AB TU

RUEPGAB/MNF-I C2X BAGHDAD IZ

UNCLAS ANKARA 001490

SENSITIVE

SIPDIS

E.O. 12958: N/A

TAGS: PTER PREL PGOV TU IZ

SUBJECT: Update on PKK Violence (August 8-15, 2008)

REF: ANKARA 1453 and previous

(U) Sensitive but unclassified - please protect accordingly.

¶1. (SBU) This is another in a series of weekly reports on PKK violence in Turkey. Our primary source is the Turkish General Staff (TGS) website, which documents contacts and clashes with the PKK, as well as casualties incurred.

¶2. (U) During the August 8-15, 2008 reporting period, eleven security officials were killed, including one in a clash in Elazig Province and nine in a military vehicle targeted by a PKK IED near Kemah, Erzincan Province. Another official died in a landmine incident in Hakkari Province. Three security officials were injured in IED and landmine explosions. The total number of security force casualties for the year through August 15, 2008 was 79 killed and 106 injured.

¶3. (U) During the same period, three PKK terrorists were killed in clashes in Sason, Batman Province on August 15. Five PKKers were captured and three surrendered. According to official TGS website figures, through the second week of August, the number of PKK militants killed this year was 565, the number of those captured was 125, and the number of those who surrendered was 101.

¶4. (U) The total number of civilian casualties for the year through the end of the second week of August remained at 40 killed, with another 229 wounded.

SILLIMAN